

Application No.: 10/540966
Docket No.: BA9316USPCT

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REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application. Claims 4-7 and 9-14 have been withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to nonelected subject matter and have been canceled. Claims 1-3, 15 and 18 are allowed. Claims 8 and 16 were rejected and have been canceled. Claim 17 was objected to and has been canceled. New Claim 19 has been added. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the amendments and remarks herein.

Claims 8 and 16 were provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-5 and 17 of copending Application No. 10/483,115 and Claims 1-5 and 24 of copending Application No. 10/485,125. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

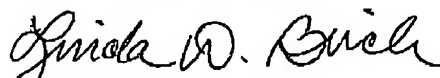
In the interest of expediting prosecution of the present application, Applicants have canceled Claims 8 and 16 but reserve the right to file a divisional application on the subject matter of these claims.

Claim 17 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have canceled Claim 17 and presented new Claim 19. Basis for new Claim 19 can be found in original Claim 17 and limitations of its base claim.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of the above-referenced application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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